

REMARKS

Claims 28-52 are currently pending in the subject application, and are presently under consideration. Claims 28, 35, 41, 45, 47, and 50-52 have been amended. Claims 42, 43, 46, and 48 have been cancelled. New claims 53-67 have been added. Favorable reconsideration of the application is requested in view of the amendments and comments herein.

Amended claim 28 recites accessing a registration server using a user's server and the first certificate of the user to create a connection that authenticates both the user's server identity via a server certificate of the user server and the user's identity via the user's first certificate, and determining in the registration server that the user is entitled to the second certificate by ensuring that the user is still a member of the PKI enterprise and ensuring that the user does not already have the second certificate. None of the cited art, individually or in combination, teaches or suggests amended claim 28. Consideration and allowance of amended claim 28, as well as claims 29-34 and 53-56 which depend therefrom, is respectfully requested.

Amended claim 35 recites accessing a server platform using a user's server and the first certificate of the user to create a connection that authenticates both the user's server identity via a server certificate of the user server and the user's identity via the user's first certificate, tracking a pedigree of the user's first certificate, and accessing a registration web page having a level of security that is commensurate with the pedigree of the user's first certificate. None of the cited art, individually or in combination, teaches or suggests amended claim 35. Consideration and allowance of amended claim 35, as well as claims 36-40 and 57-61 which depend therefrom, is respectfully requested.

Amended claim 41 recites a user server and a registration server, the user server accessing the registration server using the signature certificate of the user to create a connection that authenticates both the user's server identity via a server certificate of the user server and the user's identity via the user's signature certificate, and a secure data channel being disposed between the registration server and the user server, the user server forwarding a request for the replacement certificate to the registration server through the secure data channel. Amended claim 41 also recites a first authority, the registration server determining that the user is entitled

to the replacement certificate and, upon said determination, revoking a certificate which the replacement certificate is replacing and forwarding a request to the first authority to generate a private/public key pair associated with the replacement certificate, the first authority sending the private key to the user via the secure data channel. None of the cited art, individually or in combination, teaches or suggests amended claim 41. Consideration and allowance of amended claim 41, as well as claims 44, 45, 62, and 63 which depend therefrom, is respectfully requested.

Amended claim 47 recites a user server and a server platform, the user server accessing the server platform using the signature certificate of the user to create a connection that authenticates both the user's server identity via a server certificate of the user server and the user's identity via the user's signature certificate, and a secure data channel, the secure data channel being disposed between the server platform and the user server and being encrypted using the signature certificate. None of the cited art, individually or in combination, teaches or suggests amended claim 47. Consideration and allowance of amended claim 47, as well as claims 49-52 and 64-67 which depend therefrom, is respectfully requested.

New claim 53 depends from claim 28 and recites revoking the first certificate upon determining that the user is entitled to the second certificate. None of the cited art, individually or in combination, teaches or suggests new claim 53. Consideration and allowance of new claim 53 is respectfully requested.

New claim 54 depends from claim 28 and recites signaling both the directory and the another authority that the first certificate has been revoked. None of the cited art, individually or in combination, teaches or suggests new claim 54. Consideration and allowance of new claim 54 is respectfully requested.

New claim 55 depends from claim 28 and recites that accessing a registration server comprises tracking a pedigree of the user's first certificate to access a registration web page having a level of security that is commensurate with the pedigree of the user's first certificate. None of the cited art, individually or in combination, teaches or suggests new claim 55. Consideration and allowance of new claim 55 is respectfully requested.

New claim 56 depends from claim 28 and recites that the second certificate is an encryption certificate, and wherein creating a secure data channel comprises encrypting a transmission between registration server and the user server using the signature certificate. None of the cited art, individually or in combination, teaches or suggests new claim 56. Consideration and allowance of new claim 56 is respectfully requested.

New claim 57 depends from claim 35 and recites that the server platform is a key recovery authority, and wherein the second certificate is one of a current encryption certificate and an expired encryption certificate. None of the cited art, individually or in combination, teaches or suggests new claim 57. Consideration and allowance of new claim 57 is respectfully requested.

New claim 58 depends from claim 35 and recites determining in the server platform that the user is entitled to the second certificate by ensuring that the user is still a member of the PKI enterprise and ensuring that the user does not already have the second certificate. None of the cited art, individually or in combination, teaches or suggests new claim 58. Consideration and allowance of new claim 58 is respectfully requested.

New claim 59 depends from claim 35 and recites revoking the first certificate upon determining that the user is entitled to the second certificate. None of the cited art, individually or in combination, teaches or suggests new claim 59. Consideration and allowance of new claim 59 is respectfully requested.

New claim 60 depends from claim 35 and recites signaling both the directory and the another authority that the first certificate has been revoked. None of the cited art, individually or in combination, teaches or suggests new claim 60. Consideration and allowance of new claim 60 is respectfully requested.

New claim 61 depends from claim 35 and recites that the second certificate is an encryption certificate, and wherein creating a secure data channel comprises encrypting a transmission between registration server and the user server using the signature certificate. None of the cited art, individually or in combination, teaches or suggests new claim 61. Consideration and allowance of new claim 61 is respectfully requested.

New claim 62 depends from claim 41 and recites that the registration server comprises a plurality of registration web pages, each of the plurality of registration web pages having a level of security, a given one of the plurality of registration web pages being accessible to a given user in the PKI enterprise upon a pedigree of the given user's signature certificate being commensurate with the respective level of security. None of the cited art, individually or in combination, teaches or suggests new claim 62. Consideration and allowance of new claim 62 is respectfully requested.

New claim 63 depends from claim 41 and recites that the secure data channel is encrypted using the signature certificate. None of the cited art, individually or in combination, teaches or suggests new claim 63. Consideration and allowance of new claim 63 is respectfully requested.

New claim 64 depends from claim 47 and recites that the server platform comprises a plurality of registration web pages, each of the plurality of registration web pages having a level of security, a given one of the plurality of registration web pages being accessible to a given user in the PKI enterprise upon a pedigree of the given user's signature certificate being commensurate with the respective level of security. None of the cited art, individually or in combination, teaches or suggests new claim 64. Consideration and allowance of new claim 64 is respectfully requested.

New claim 65 depends from claim 47 and recites that the server platform determines whether the user is entitled to the second certificate by ensuring that the user is still a member of the PKI enterprise and by ensuring that the user does not already have the second certificate upon the user server forwarding the request for the second certificate. None of the cited art, individually or in combination, teaches or suggests new claim 65. Consideration and allowance of new claim 65 is respectfully requested.

New claim 66 depends from claim 47 and recites that the server platform revokes the signature certificate upon the server platform generating the second certificate. None of the cited art, individually or in combination, teaches or suggests new claim 66. Consideration and allowance of new claim 66 is respectfully requested.

New claim 67 depends from claim 47 and recites that the server platform is a key recovery authority, and wherein the second certificate is one of a current encryption certificate and an expired encryption certificate. None of the cited art, individually or in combination, teaches or suggests new claim 67. Consideration and allowance of new claim 67 is respectfully requested.

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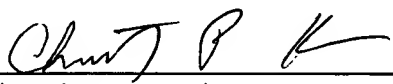
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application and that the application be passed to issue.

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in the fees for this amendment to our Deposit Account No. 20-0090.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 1-9-06



Christopher P. Harris
Registration No. 43,660

CUSTOMER No.: 26,294

TAROLLI, SUNDHEIM, COVELL, & TUMMINO L.L.P.
526 SUPERIOR AVENUE, SUITE 1111
CLEVELAND, OHIO 44114-1400
Phone: (216) 621-2234
Fax: (216) 621-4072